

Appendix One – Draft amended Fisheries (Seabird Mitigation Measures-Surface Longline) Circular 2018

Circular

1 Title This circular is the Fisheries (Seabird Mitigation Measures—Surface Longlines) Circular 2018.

2 Commencement This circular comes into force on XXXXX.

3 Interpretation

In this circular,—

aerial extent means the distance from the back of a vessel to the place where the streamer line backbone enters the water under normal setting speed in calm sea

nautical dawn means the time at sunrise when the centre of the sun is at a depression angle of 12° below the ideal horizon for the place

nautical dusk means the time at sunset when the centre of the sun is at a depression angle of 12° below the ideal horizon for the place

set, in relation to a surface longline, means releasing the surface longline into the water

surface longline means a line—

- (a) to which hooks (whether baited or not) are attached; and
- (b) that is suspended by floats; and
- (c) that is not attached to the sea floor

streamer line means a type of seabird-scaring device also known as a tori line and required to be used in accordance with clauses 6 to 9.

4 Restrictions on use of surface longlines

A commercial fisher must not set surface longlines in New Zealand fisheries waters during the period of time between half an hour before nautical dawn and half an hour after nautical dusk on the same day unless the line is weighted in accordance with clause 5.

5 Weighting of surface longlines

For the purposes of clause 4, for each hook attached to a surface longline, weights must be attached to that line as follows:

- (a) 1 weight equal to or greater than 40 g must be attached within 50 cm of the hook; or
- (b) 1 or more weights equal to or greater than a total of 45 g must be attached within 1 m of the hook; or
- (c) 1 or more weights equal to or greater than a total of 60 g must be attached within 3.5 m of the hook; or
- (d) 1 or more weights equal to or greater than a total of 98 g must be attached within 4 m of the hook.

6 Streamer line required if surface longlines set

A commercial fisher must not set a surface longline in New Zealand fisheries waters unless—

- (a) the vessel carrying the surface longline also carries a streamer line; and
- (b) the streamer line is, at all times, configured and used in accordance with clauses 7 to 9 when the surface longline is set.

7 Specifications for all streamer lines

- (1) A streamer line must be attached to the vessel.
- (2) A streamer line must be deployed in a position that protects the baited hooks, including in crosswinds.
- (3) A streamer line must use streamers that are—
 - (a) brightly coloured; and
 - (b) resistant to damage from ultraviolet light.
- (4) If the streamer line in use breaks or is damaged, it must be repaired or replaced so that the vessel meets the specifications in this clause and clauses 8 and 9 before any further hooks enter the water.

8 Specifications for streamer lines on vessels less than 35 m in length

- (1) On a vessel that is less than 35 m in overall length, a streamer line must be—

- (a) set in a way that achieves an aerial extent of at least 75 m; and
- (b) deployed in a way to create sufficient drag to maximise aerial extent and maintain the line directly behind the vessel during crosswinds; and
- (c) suspended from a point on the vessel that is at least 6 m above the sea surface and located as close to the stern as practicable.

(2) A streamer line must be configured so that—

(b) streamers long enough to reach the surface of the sea in calm conditions are attached to the streamer line:

i. at intervals of no more than 5 m along at least the first 75 m of the streamer line (although modifications may be made over the first 15 m of the streamer line to avoid tangling); and

ii. in a way that prevents the streamers from wrapping around the streamer line; and

(b) streamers with a minimum length of 1 m are attached at intervals of no more than 1 m along at least the aerial extent of the streamer line.

(3) If two streamer lines are used, they must be deployed on opposing lines of the main line of baited hooks.

9 Specifications for streamer lines on vessels equal to or greater than 35 m in length

(3) On a vessel that is equal to or greater than 35 m in overall length, a streamer line must be—

(a) set in a way that achieves an aerial extent of at least 100 m; and

(c) at least 200 m long; and

(d) suspended from a point on the vessel as close to the stern as practicable that is at least 7 m above the surface of the sea in calm conditions.

(2) A streamer line must be configured so that –

(a) streamers long enough to reach the surface of the sea in calm conditions are attached to the streamer line -

i. at intervals of no more than 5 m along at least the first 55 m of the streamer line; and

ii. with swivels that prevent the streamers from wrapping around the streamer line;
and

(b) streamers with a minimum length of 1 m are attached at intervals of no more than 1 m along at least the aerial extent of the streamer line.

(3) If two streamer lines are used baited hooks must be deployed within the area bounded by the two streamer lines.

10 Circular does not apply to additional or secondary device

This circular does not apply to an additional or secondary seabird-scaring device.

11 Revocation

The Fisheries (Seabird Mitigation Measures-Surface Longlines) Circular 2014 (Gazette 2011, p 4923) is revoked.

DRAFT NOT IN FORCE